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# Congressman wants to probe report that U.S. recruited Nazis after war

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WASHINGTON — Rep. Barney Frank (D., Mass.) has called for a congressional investigation into reports that State Department officials secretly smuggled hundreds of Nazis and Nazi collaborators into the United States in exchange for intelligence information about the Soviet Union.

Frank, a member of the House subcommittee on investigations, called the reported Nazi recruitment operation "the most appalling mixture of moral insensitivity and incompetence I have seen."

Frank said Sunday that he was informed of the purported clandestine program by John Loftus, a former prosecutor with the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigation, the unit responsible for ferreting out war criminals and others whose Nazi pasts made them ineligible for U.S. citizenship.

Loftus, appearing on the CBS-TV program "60 Minutes" Sunday, charged that the smuggling program was run by the State Department's Office of Policy Coordination after

## World War II

More than 300 Nazis from one area of the Soviet Union still live in the United States and some of them work for the government, Loftus said.

The FBI, the Army and the State Department were all involved in enlisting Nazi help to spy on the Soviets in exchange for American citizenship and jobs, Loftus said. The Nazis in question were reportedly non-Germans.

"They knew that the entire Nazi government of Byelorussia, the president, the vice presidents, cabinet ministers, governors and mayors, police chiefs were all living in America," Loftus said. "The FBI, Army Counterintelligence, Army Foreign Intelligence, the Department of State — they knew and recruited them because they were Nazis."

Loftus said that classified information "indicated that a number of these programs were approved at the highest level."

Justice Department spokesman Dean St. Dennis said Sunday that "the department is aware of the allegations and is looking into them," but would not elaborate.

In a statement yesterday, the Jus-

tice Department said its criminal division had been investigating for some time allegations that Byelorussians who worked for the Nazis were helped by U.S. intelligence agencies to enter the United States and that executive-branch agencies had deliberately thwarted efforts by Congress to obtain information about these people.

It said that a number of Byelorussians had been under investigation for 2½ years but that Allan A. Ryan Jr., head of the Office of Special Investigations, did not yet have enough evidence of their involvement in Nazi persecutions to go into federal court to try and revoke their citizenship and deport them.

"As to the allegations that the executive-branch agencies engaged in a cover-up to prevent Congress from obtaining accurate information about the emigres, the Justice Department's Office of Public Integrity began inquiries last year and those efforts are continuing," the department's statement said.

State Department spokesman Alan Romber said yesterday that, "as to the role of the Department of State in the allegations made by '60 Minutes,' we are reviewing our files to see whether they contain any relevant information."

He said there had been allegations in recent years of Nazis living in the United States and said the State Department had cooperated fully with all investigations of these allegations.

Spokesmen for the FBI and the Army both said they had no information on the report.

The State Department began recruiting Nazis for espionage work shortly after World War II, Loftus said, in a program run by the late Frank Wisner, the postwar chief of operations for the CIA.

The alleged espionage program was a failure, Loftus said. "It was worse than a botch," he said. "Many Byelorussians were later identified as having been double agents."

The purported clandestine recruitment contravened the orders of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman.